



State of Louisiana

Department of Environmental Quality

December 6, 2000



M.J. "Mike" Foster
Governor

J. Dale G. Foster
Secretary

LOUISIANA LAND SYSTEM, INC. DENIED SOLID WASTE PERMIT FOR ALSEN LANDFILL

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality has **denied** a request from Louisiana Land System, Inc. (LLSI) to operate a solid waste landfill in Alsen, Louisiana, East Baton Rouge Parish. LLSI intended to purchase an existing, but unused vault to store waste allowable under the requested Type I, II and III Solid Waste Permit. The waste intended for disposal would have been generated off-site and could have included disposal of the following: incinerator ash, asbestos, non-hazardous petroleum-contaminated media, debris from underground storage tanks, non-infectious hospital/clinic waste, domestic sewage sludge, construction waste and debris waste.

In announcing the permit denial, DEQ cited the following four reasons of equal significance:

- DEQ recognizes that there must be a genuine demand for a new waste facility site before it should be permitted. Here, there is no such demand. In fact, there are a sufficient number of facilities like the one planned by LLSI already operating at permitted sites.
- There are other alternatives to disposal than the type of facility proposed that LLSI failed to consider. For example, LLSI did not consider land application as an alternative to disposal of sewage sludge in an open landfill. Although the regulations allow the disposal of sewage sludge in an open landfill, land application of sewage sludge has become regarded as the best management strategy because of the soil building and nutritive value potential. Additionally, disposal of construction and demolition debris and wood waste in a Type III-only facility was not considered as an alternative. Generally, such disposal is less expensive and, as a result, economically advantageous to customers.
- LLSI failed to conduct a sufficient site analysis. LLSI's alternative site analysis tracks the one performed years ago for the waste generated by the Petro Processors, Incorporated Superfund site. All of the sites considered for the PPI situation were in the same geographical area, i.e., Scenic Highway. Therefore, LLSI's proposed project differs from the former PPI situation and, therefore, involved different considerations and objectives.
- DEQ has concerns regarding the integrity of the liner in the existing vault because the liner has been exposed to the elements for ten years. LLSI proposed testing the liner; however, the proposed testing was not comprehensive. For example, LLSI only proposed spot-checking the seams in the liner.

Copies of this decision are available by contacting Ms. Wendy McClain, DEQ Public Records Custodian, at 225-763-0328.

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